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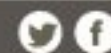
Halifax metro



WESTWOOD ON NDP
Canadian lefties
need their own
Bernie Sanders
metroVIEWS

Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016

High 12°C/Low 7°C Scattered showers



TALKING TRANSIT

**AHEAD OF THE DEBATE OVER THE CITY'S
NEW PLAN, METRO ASKED READERS WHAT
CHANGES THEY'D LIKE TO SEE** **metroNEWS**



'An app would
be helpful for
people with
phones, to
track the
buses better.'

'More evening and
weekend routes.
Also 24 hour
service or even 23.
You'd see a lot less
drunk drivers.'

'\$78 for a bus
pass is way too
expensive, I
don't use the bus
every month for
a pass to be
beneficial to me.'

'I don't find the
buses are on
time all the time
and sometimes
they don't even
show up.'

'Letting kids sit
down before pulling
away ... and perhaps
some customer
care courses would
be nice.'

JEFF HARPER/METRO



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Kristin Johnston was found dead in her Halifax home last month. FACEBOOK

Police re-arrest murder suspect

KRISTIN JOHNSTON

Man, 33, released from hospital; taken into custody



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

After waiting more than two weeks, Halifax police were finally able to interview the person of interest in the killing of Kristin Johnston on Monday.

Police rearrested a 33-year-old man in connection with the homicide of 32-year-old Johnston last month.

The man was originally ar-

rested on March 26, the day of Johnston's death, but was released from custody pending hospital treatment of what were described as serious, but non-life threatening, injuries.

At about noon on Monday, the man was released from the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre in Halifax, and arrested without incident.

"At this point, he's arrested, and they're interviewing him and they're conducting their investigation," Halifax police spokesperson Cst. Alicia Joseph said Monday.

The man arrested Monday was considered a person of interest the entire time he was in hospital, and police told Metro last month that he was the only person police were looking for.

24

Police have 24 hours after an arrest to either press charges or release a suspect.

"At that time, investigators may not have been able to conduct a thorough investigation or interview him," Joseph said.

Police were originally called to Johnston's home on Oceanview Drive, just off Purcells Cove Road, at about 7:45 a.m. on March 26 for an "unknown trouble call," and found Johnston's body inside the home.

Johnston's sister told Metro on Friday that she expected the man to be released from hospital this week.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Sheriffs' union urges province to implement safety measures



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

The union representing the province's deputy sheriffs is calling on the justice department to implement safety recommendations made in a 2015 report.

"Our members overall just want safety upheld. There was a lot of resistance to the Beaton Report when it first came out,"

NSGEU acting president Jason MacLean explained Monday.

"Now our members are aware of this new reality coming forward and the promise was made by (the former minister) in the summer that all 51 recommendations would be upheld and executed and honoured and now they're backing away from it... We want timelines."

The 137-page report was written by RCMP Superintendent Darrell Beaton and contained

51 recommendations designed to reduce risks to deputy sheriffs and the public. In July of 2015 Lena Diab, justice minister at the time, committed to act on the report's recommendations.

The three of most concern to the union's membership included Tasers, pepper spray and sidearms.

"We are looking for a commitment to promises they've already made and we want safety for everybody," MacLean said.

The union is frustrated recommendations haven't yet been carried out and that timelines haven't been provided.

"We'd like to see the commitment. We find it quite troubling that the safety of our sheriffs is put at risk and the safety of the public is put at risk," MacLean said.

On Monday afternoon, justice minister Diana Whalen issued an op-ed piece about sheriffs and Tasers.

"After significant study and review, we are confident we can address the safety concerns raised in the occupational health and safety review," Whalen wrote.

"That plan includes rigorous risk assessment, increasing physical security at courthouses when necessary, using armed police officers when risks are heightened and equipping designated sheriffs with conductive energy weapons, commonly known as Tasers."



A 2015 RCMP report listed 51 recommendations to improve officer safety. JEFF HARPER/METRO

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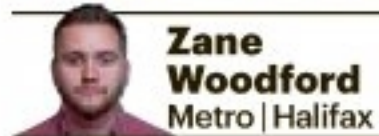
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Nova Centre changes on table

DEVELOPMENT

Design review committee to consider them



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

Joe Ramia will be taking proposed changes to the Nova Centre development to the municipality's design review committee this week.

The developer will be asking for 14 changes to the site plan approval, including the addition of brick surrounds on the faces of the hotel tower at the corner of Prince Street and Market Street, the "arrangement of glazing and spandrel panels" on the hotel, and canopies and doors on Market Street.

The changes were supposed to go to a meeting of the design review committee in March, but it was cancelled because of a lack of items on the agenda.

According to the information report that was supposed to come forward at that meet-

ing, Ramia was asking to make changes to "some elements of the exterior design of the building, particularly with regard to the Market Street elevation and the exterior materials of the base of the building and the tower at the corner of Sackville and Market streets."

At the time, Ramia wondered why so much attention was given to the changes.

"I'm not sure how it built up that everybody's now writing about it, but they're minor changes," Ramia told Metro.

"It happens on every building."

The convention centre portion of the Nova Centre was scheduled to open at the end of September, and the whole building next January. Ramia said in March that he's not sure they'll hit those goals, "but these changes will not have any effect on what we're doing," he said.

The design review committee meets at City Hall this Thursday, and on Wednesday night, there will be a public open house detailing the changes at the Cambridge Suites on Brunswick Street.



The developer wants to change aspects of the Nova Centre design, including this corner on Sackville Street in Halifax.

JEFF HARPER / METRO

DRUG BUST AT INTERSECTION

Halifax man arrested on drug charges at traffic stop

A Halifax man faces numerous drug charges after a traffic stop in the city's west end last Friday.

On Friday at 8:20 p.m., Halifax Regional Police conducted the traffic stop in the area of Connaught Avenue and Windsor Street, where they

searched the suspect's vehicle.

They found cocaine, marijuana, Diazepam and some cash. The suspect pushed an officer during his arrest and attempted to flee, but was quickly apprehended.

A 29-year-old woman at the scene was also arrested, but later released.

Gary Devin Kohlmier, 29,

is facing charges of possession for the purpose of trafficking in cocaine, cannabis and Diazepam.

He is also facing charges for assaulting a police officer, resisting arrest and escaping lawful custody.

He was scheduled to appear in Halifax provincial court Monday, police said.

METRO

COMMUNITIES

Councillor suggests new name

Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

One Halifax regional councillor is hoping to change the name of the district he represents.

Coun. Reg Rankin will ask for a staff report at council's Tuesday meeting to change the name of Timberlea-Beechville-Clayton Park West, proposing to remove the word West, and replace it with Wedgewood "to better recognize these communities."

"Certainly you go into

Wedgewood and you'd be making a mistake to say Clayton Park West," Rankin told Metro on Monday.

"That is not the case, and so it's one end of the district so why not recognize it?"

"You drop Clayton Park West and it is Clayton Park, and add Wedgewood without adding more words."

With so many communities in his district, Rankin acknowledges that each one of them can't be included in the district's name, but he thinks having four is a good start.

"It better identifies the

breadth of the district and it distinguishes it from Clayton Park," he said.

"I'm sure the people in Wedgewood will appreciate that it does capture their community."

Though the change wouldn't make Rankin's district the longest name in Halifax Regional Municipality.

That honour goes to Brad Johns' Middle/Upper Sackville-Beaver Bank-Lucasville.

Still, Rankin's district would be a close second.

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YVETTE D'ENTREMONT/METRO

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Riders weigh in on redesign

HALIFAX TRANSIT

Metro asked readers what changes they'd like to see



Sarah Rae
For Metro | Halifax

A controversial new plan for Halifax Transit will be debated at City Hall on Tuesday, and Metro hit the streets to find out what transit users think.

The Moving Forward Together Plan includes route maps, step-by-step details of what the new routes would look like, and when they'd be rolled out over the next five years.

The redesign planning started in February 2013 and for 10 weeks last year, a draft plan was released for public consultation. Halifax Transit received feedback from meetings, Twitter town halls and more than 15,000 surveys, and then created the final plan.

That plan is going to the committee of the whole on Tuesday at 10 a.m., before this week's meeting of Halifax regional council.

Metro asked readers on the street, on Facebook and on Twitter what changes they'd like to see.

ON THE STREET:

"For instance, the Portland street route, they have like three buses but they're so close in time, so if you miss one of them, you miss

them all and you're waiting, so I wish they were spaced out a bit." - **Brad Laird**

"I live out on Hammonds Plains Road and I don't find the buses are on time all the time and sometimes they don't even show up, and they should really bring another route out there because it is growing." - **Val-Marie Wright**

"An app would be helpful for people with phones, to track the buses better" - **Evan Slate**

"I would love to see more buses coming, I am from Bedford the buses come every half an hour and are usually full. I take bus 90 and as soon as it comes down the hill, maybe 4, 5 stops and it's full." - **Fran Khosrav**

"I live in Spryfield, so the buses come whenever. They're supposed to come every half hour and they don't. Sometimes I'm waiting an hour." - **Elizabeth Cole**

"The price, \$2.50 is a lot of money, I feel like it's a service targeted towards people who don't have cars, and can't afford to take a cab everyday ... \$78 for a bus pass is way too expensive, I don't use the bus every month for a pass to be beneficial to me." - **Victoria Cameron**

ON FACEBOOK:

"Halifax-Dartmouth Express buses would be very useful for me. There are times when I have to take up to four buses to get to or from work at Mic Mac Mall." - **Matt Purcell**

"Better bus services on the weekend. This is especially true for those who work in health care who need to be at work for 7 a.m. in Halifax." - **Loretta Anstey-Boutillier**

"More evening and weekend routes. Also

24 hour service or even 23. You'd see a lot less drunk drivers." - **Holly Fraser**

"Either a 24 hr service or extend the time to after bar hours. At least even having a bus to just go back to Dartmouth" - **LeAnna Bowen**

"Actual accessibility for access a bus. A route system and ability to use daily, i.e. for school." - **Kendra Noon-Ward**

"Letting kids sit down before pulling away (not all special needs can be seen) and perhaps some customer care courses would be nice." - **Kellie**

Hennigan

"Ideally they would expand routes, extend hours, increase frequency, drop costs, and improve interactions between drivers/public. Ideally. Haha." - **Erin Esau**

ON TWITTER:

@SmrtCanuck: Improved evening and weekend service. Not everyone has a car to hop into at those times, some of us rely on it 7 days a week.

@Heather05038379: would be that the access a bus could do pick up/drop offs not based on when regular transit is in your area

@kurious-ity: Less repetitive routes (such as on North and Spring Garden), resulting in less bottlenecks and more buses being on-time.

@lyne1344: Security at the new Lacewood Terminal! Especially at night!

@settledown-mavis: an attitude adjustment for many drivers and maybe showing up on schedule would be just swell! Not much to ask.



JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE



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School board blasts back

EDUCATION

Superintendent points finger at newspaper over bullying article



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

The superintendent of the Halifax Regional School Board has publicly responded to a controversial article published in The Chronicle Herald this weekend.

"I was deeply offended to see the school represented so inaccurately. I know how hard teachers, administrators and support staff at Chebucto Heights have been working to support each student enrolled in the school," Elwin LeRoux said in Monday's statement.

"I also know the community is tremendously supportive of the school in countless ways."

In an article published in Saturday's edition of The Chronicle Herald, allegations were made by an anonymous parent referred to as Missy. She said recently arrived Syrian refugee children at Chebucto Heights Elementary School were "choking, pushing, slapping and verbally abusing their fellow classmates."

There is an ongoing strike of The Chronicle Herald's newsroom employees' union, and the story was published without a byline.

The article created a social media storm as readers condemned the newspaper for publishing an article that incited racist comments on numerous xenophobic websites



A custodian removes graffiti from the side of Chebucto Heights Elementary School on Monday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

and forums.

Over the course of the weekend, The Chronicle Herald removed quotes, changed the headline and eventually removed the story altogether and published an explanation in its place. "School bullying story needed more work" is the headline that appears in the online space that once housed the article.

"The Chronicle Herald published a story Saturday that has drawn the wrath of many of our readers, particularly online," it reads in part.

"Our story was incomplete and insufficiently corroborated, given the serious nature of the allegations. Readers also rightly pointed out that the headline

'Parents worried over school kids' brutality' was unfortunate. Using the word brutality to describe children, particularly of an identifiable cultural group, is problematic."



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Elwin LeRoux

In his message to all Halifax Regional School Board staff, the superintendent explained why he took issue with the article.

"I have spoken directly to Sarah Dennis, the owner of The Chronicle Herald. I told her that the accusations, the language and the tone of the article were both harmful and

hurtful to students, staff and the community of Chebucto Heights — and to our entire school system," reads part of the letter written by Elwin LeRoux. "They're also not true.

"We look to our community partners, including those in the media, to help support our efforts," he wrote.

"How can we do this? We can start by not stereotyping — a school, a group of people or a community."

In an interview on Monday, LeRoux said the school board's

administration supervisor started the day at Chebucto Heights.

Board staff had been in contact with the school's principal throughout the day on Monday to ensure staff knew their efforts were being supported and to encourage them not to be "deflated" by the controversial article.

"We all know formally we're teaching reading and writing and mathematics but in public school we're also working on things like respect and being accepting of others," he said.

"I was afraid when I read the article that it didn't well depict the great things that our school community is trying to do to support every student."

+ IN BRIEF

Fares for Portland ferry service are confirmed

Bay Ferries released its fare schedule Monday for the high speed CAT ferry service between Yarmouth and Portland, Maine. The company says beginning June 15 a round trip ticket for an adult with or without a vehicle will cost US\$194, while seniors will pay US\$186 return and a round-trip ticket for children six-years-old and up will cost US\$118.

The cost of a return trip for vehicles up to 20 feet long will be US\$275, although Nova Scotia residents receive US\$100 off the vehicle fare, excluding Friday and Sunday, for the entire season. The company says the fares are about the same as those charged before the previous high speed service was discontinued in 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pastor pleads not guilty to sex-crime offences

A prominent Toronto pastor has pleaded not guilty to decades-old sex-crime allegations in Nova Scotia.

Reverend Brent Hawkes is accused of indecent assault and gross indecency related to allegations of a sexual assault in the 1970s.

As expected, Hawkes did not appear in provincial court Monday in Kentville. Not guilty pleas were entered on the charges and trial dates set for seven days starting Nov. 14. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WHARF BLAZE

Derelict boat gutted by fire

Monday was another bad day for the Farley Mowat, Shelburne's controversial wharf tenant.

The Shelburne Volunteer Fire Department responded to a fire aboard the vessel shortly before noon.

Shelburne fire department had a difficult task of reaching the fire with only a foot of walkway around where the boat's floor had been cut out right through to the engine room.

A small group of firefighters were able to walk closer to the flames.

Owner Tracy Dodds and some workers were aboard the Farley Mowat when the fire broke out.

According to court documents, Dodds had until April 8 to have the derelict ves-



It took two hours for Shelburne firefighters to douse the flames on board the Farley Mowat on Monday. TC MEDIA

sel removed from the Shelburne wharf where it has been docked without permission since 2014.

According to a spokesperson for the Town of Shelburne, Dodds was given a two-week

extension to complete the removal of the vessel due to delays caused by high winds.

It took close to two hours to extinguish the fire. The vessel remained afloat after the fire.

TC MEDIA

Study sounds alarm on Canada's 'missing girls'

SEX DISCRIMINATION

Indo-Canadian birth data shows gender imbalance

A preference for boys among Indian-born parents may have contributed to a deficit of more than 4,400 girls over two decades in what researchers in a new study are calling Canada's "missing girls."

The research, presented in the Canadian Medical Association Journal and the online CMAJ Open, looks at more than six million births in Canada and reveals that a greater presence of boys among Indian-born mothers may in part be linked to abortions in the second trimester, when parents can learn the baby's sex.

The birth data was compiled from databases administered by Statistics Canada and the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences in Toronto between 1990 and 2011, and 1993 to 2012,



Baldev Mutta, centre, CEO of Punjabi Community Health Services in Brampton, Ont., with his granddaughter Talon Mutta, left, and daughter Rakhi Mutta. Mutta is involved in initiatives to celebrate girls born to Indian parents. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

respectively.

"The main implication is that among some immigrant communities, males are placed at a higher value than females. This is not just about abortions, it is about gender equality," said

lead author Marcelo Urquia of St. Michael's Hospital. "I hope that this is conducive to a respectful debate on the value of girls and women in today's Canadian society."

His study newly exposes a

relationship between induced abortions and the previously reported large numbers of boys among Ontario's Indian community, said Urquia, noting the data likely explains an imbalance in the rest of Canada too. Some of the "deficit" of girls may be due to "implantation of male embryos," said Urquia, but the data is insufficient.

For Baldev Mutta, CEO of Punjabi Community Health Services in Brampton, Ont., it's a question he and other community leaders will have to face. With this new research, he says, it is "time for some soul searching," in the country's Indian community.

"This is something that we cannot hide anymore," said Mutta.

He helped launch an initiative that flips the script on a traditional celebration called a "Lohri," meant for celebrating the birth of a boy, but which Mutta and a group of young South Asian women have turned into a movement called Lohri For Her. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

G7 MINISTERS

Dion vows renewed anti-nukes effort

Foreign Affairs Minister Stephane Dion says Canada can help kick-start the world's stalled nuclear disarmament efforts by pushing for tougher controls to prevent terrorists from building a nuclear weapon.

Dion joined his G7 counterparts on Monday in calling for a renewed effort towards nuclear disarmament after visiting the atomic-bombed Japanese city of Hiroshima.

But the minister also appeared to express frustration at what many see as the glacial pace of nuclear disarmament efforts.

"It's a challenge because over the last 20 years, it's stalled," Dion said in an interview from Tokyo, adding that there's been



This visit is not about the past, it's about the future.

Stephane Dion

"no major progress" on ridding the world of nuclear weapons in that time.

Dion said Canada will focus on the growing international effort to revive the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, or FMCT. It has been more than half a century since the United Nations embarked on creating the treaty, which would control the spread of nuclear materials. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Stephane Dion, second from left, with his G7 counterparts at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Officials link charities to terrorist financing

Federal revenue agency officials have handed senators detailed correspondence about six organizations whose charitable status was stripped over concerns about terrorist financing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Payment from Lac-Megantic settlement fund contested

About 400 people are contesting the amount of money they have received from the \$460-million Lac-Megantic settlement fund for victims and creditors of the 2013 rail disaster, the man overseeing the cash

distribution said Monday.

Roughly 10 per cent of the 4,200 people who received cheques were not satisfied with their portion, said Andrew Adessky of the firm Richter. Victims have so far received half their expected payment for moral damages. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Sporadic fighting mars first day of Yemen ceasefire

A UN-brokered ceasefire was mostly holding across war-torn Yemen on Monday with scattered violations reported by both sides. Much of the remaining violence took place in the besieged city of Taiz, where shelling killed at least one person and wounded five, according to residents.

The truce between the Saudi-led coalition, which backs Yemen's internationally recognized government, and the Shiite rebels went into effect at Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel to free Palestinian girl, 12, held in prison

A 12-year-old Palestinian girl who was imprisoned after she confessed to planning a stabbing attack in a West Bank settlement will be released early, Israel's prison service said Monday, capping a saga that drew attention to the dual legal system in the West Bank.

The case has put Israel in a tough spot as it deals with a girl who has pleaded guilty to a crime, yet has not completed the seventh grade. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thailand to sentence drunk drivers to morgue work

To help combat the carnage on the country's roads during this week's traditional New Year's celebration, Thai authorities are going gory: Drunk drivers and repeat traffic offenders can be sent to work in hospital morgues to see the fruits of their actions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

David Cameron defends tax affairs

PANAMA PAPERS

Britain acting to stop evasion in overseas havens: Leader

British Prime Minister David Cameron fought back Monday after days of criticism over his finances, lashing out at what he called hurtful and untrue claims about his late father's investments sparked by leaked details about the offshore accounts of the rich and famous.

Trying to restore his government's shaken reputation, Cameron insisted that "aspiration and wealth creation are not somehow dirty words" and said Britain was acting to stop evasion in its overseas tax havens.

Cameron has been under mounting pressure since his father, Ian Cameron, was identified as a client of a Panamanian law firm that specializes in helping the wealthy reduce their tax burdens. The prime minister initially refused to say whether he had a stake in Blairmore Holdings, an offshore firm established by his father, before acknowledging he had sold his shares in it shortly before he was elected in 2010.

"I accept all of the criticisms for not responding more quickly to these issues last week," Cameron told



U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron gets set to appear before MPs on Monday for the first time since it emerged he had profited from an offshore fund. STEFAN ROUSSEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

lawmakers in the House of Commons. "But as I said, I was angry about the way my father's memory was being traduced."

Cameron said his father, who died in 2010, had set up an investment fund overseas so it could trade in dollar securities — "an entirely standard practice and it is not to avoid tax." He said millions of Britons had investments in such funds through their workplace pensions.

Revelations about the Cameron family finances — found among more than 11 million documents from the Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca — have overshadowed the government's claim that it is committed to closing tax loopholes. Cameron has championed greater financial transparency, and is due to host an international anti-corruption summit in London next month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ IN CANADA

The Canada Revenue Agency is boosting its efforts to hunt down tax dodgers — including those who shelter cash offshore — under an expanded plan expected to recoup \$2.6 billion in unpaid taxes over the next five years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GEORGIA

Trial begins in hot SUV death

The judge overseeing the trial of a Georgia man accused of intentionally leaving his son in a hot SUV to die heard on Monday from about a dozen potential jurors who said they had scheduling conflicts. Two were excused.

Justin Ross Harris, 35, faces charges including murder in the June 18, 2014, death of his 22-month-old son, Cooper. Police have said the boy died after spending about seven hours in the SUV on a day when the temperature in the Atlanta area reached at least into the high 80s F (over 30 C).

Prosecutors have painted Harris as a man unhappy and unfaithful in his marriage who sought an escape and intentionally left the boy to die. Defence attorneys have called the boy's death a tragic mistake that Harris will have to deal with for the rest of his life.

He was indicted in September 2014 on multiple charges, including malice murder, felony murder and cruelty to children. That indictment also includes charges related to sexually explicit exchanges prosecutors say Harris had with an underage girl.

The extensive local and national news coverage of the case from the beginning will likely make it extremely difficult to find jurors who haven't heard or read about it. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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UTAH

Polygamy outlawed again

A federal appeals court restored Utah's ban on polygamy Monday, handing a defeat to the family from TV's *Sister Wives* and other polygamists who say the ruling could send plural families back into hiding out of fear of prosecution.

Others cheered the decision that they say will help authorities prosecute people for crimes tied to the practice, such as underage marriage and sexual assault.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed a 2013 ruling that struck down key parts of Utah's law against bigamy. U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups had found the state violated polygamists' right to privacy and religious freedom.

The appeals court ruled that Waddoups should not have considered a lawsuit from Kody



Brady Williams RICK BOWMER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Brown and his four wives because they were never charged with a crime and there was little chance they would be.

Prosecutors pointed to Warren Jeffs, the imprisoned polygamist sect leader convicted of assaulting girls he considered

wives.

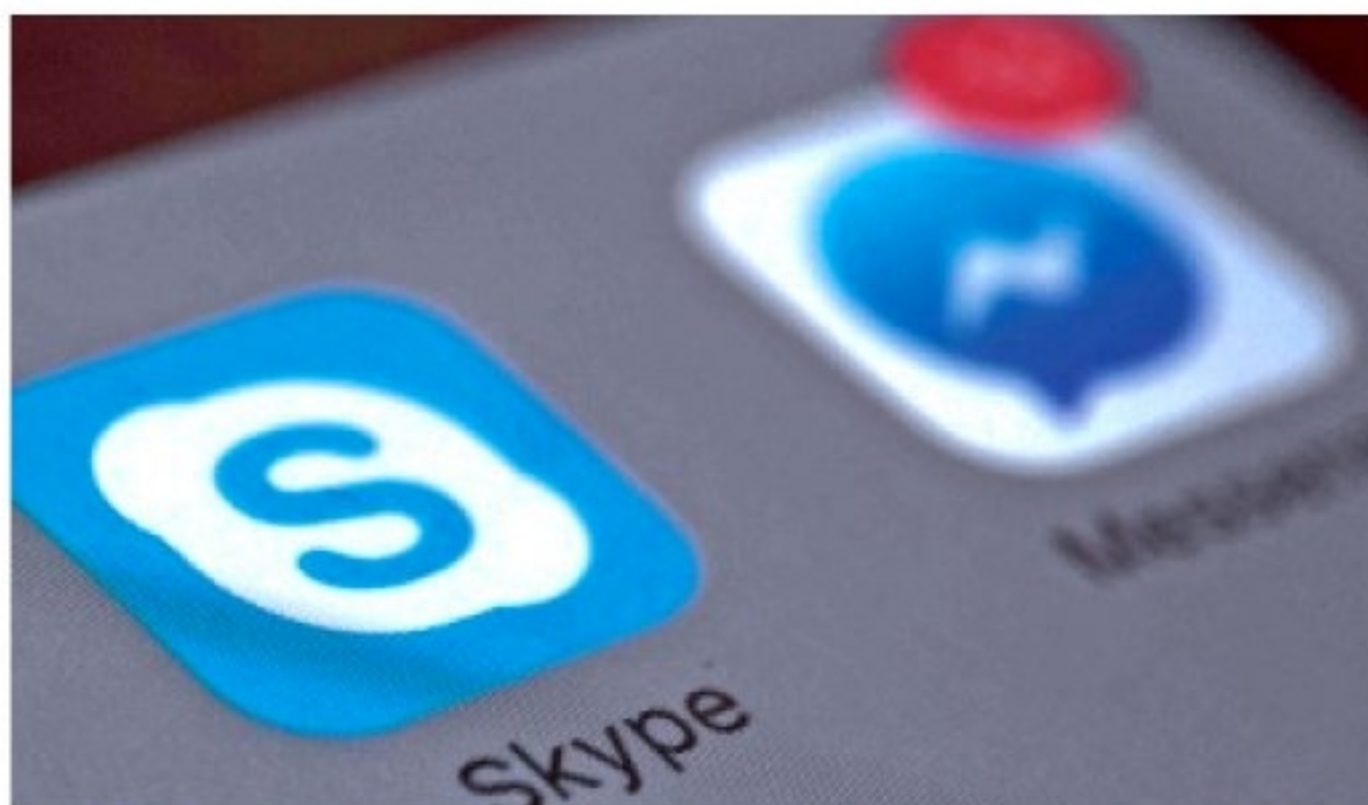
The Browns have never belonged to Jeffs' group, and lumping in good, honest polygamist families with him isn't fair, said Brady Williams, who has five wives.

"We're only guilty of trying to love a different way than the norm," he said. "They are marginalizing a minority class in the United States. That's unconstitutional."

The Browns will appeal the ruling, either asking the 10th Circuit to reconsider or taking the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, said their lawyer, Jonathan Turley.

"The underlying rights of religious freedom and free speech are certainly too great to abandon," Turley said in a statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



People who use Messenger and Skype for online chats can soon expect to see businesses offering information and other services with the help of messaging "bots." PATRICK SISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The chatbots, at your service

TECHNOLOGY

Why you might soon be texting robots as often as your friends

The robots are coming ... to help run your life, or sell you stuff, at an texting service near you.

In coming months, people who use Facebook's Messenger app, Microsoft's Skype and Canada's Kik for online chats can expect to find new automated assistants offering information and services at a variety of businesses. These messaging "chatbots" are basically software that's capable of human-like conversation — and of doing some simple jobs once reserved for actual people. Google and other companies are reportedly working on similar ideas.

In Asia, such software butlers

are already part of the landscape. When Washington, D.C., attorney Samantha Guo visited China recently, Guo said she was amazed at how extensively her friends used bots and similar technology on the texting service WeChat to pay for meals, order movie tickets and even send each other gifts.

"It was mind-blowing," said

Bots are the new apps.
Satya Nadella

Guo, 32. U.S. services lag way behind, she added.

Online messaging has become routine for most people, offering more immediacy than email or voice calls, said Michael Wolf, a media and technology consultant. Messaging services are now growing faster than traditional

online social platforms like Facebook or Twitter, according to research by Wolf's firm, Activate.

And experts say messaging bots can handle a wider range of tasks than apps offered by retailers and other consumer businesses. In part, that's because bots can recognize a variety of spoken or typed phrases, where apps force you to choose from options on a drop-down menu. Reaching a chatbot can be as simple as clicking a link in an online ad or scanning a boxy bar code with a smartphone's camera; a special-purpose app requires a download and often a new account sign-up.

"Bots are the new apps," Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella said last month.

Facebook is widely expected to unveil similar tools for its Messenger chat service at the company's annual software conference starting Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REGULATOR

CRTC: No guarantee of speedy Internet

Canadians may want fast Internet access everywhere in the country, but that doesn't mean it will be guaranteed by Canada's telecom regulator.

Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) chairman Jean-Pierre Blais says any speed or service level his agency finds ideal won't automatically mean regulatory action to ensure it's accessible to everyone.

Blais opened exhaustive hearings Monday into whether high-

speed Internet access should be a basic service and what that could mean. But he said it will be up to participants to demonstrate why the CRTC should act and why market forces are not enough to ensure the public's need for Internet services is being met.

"As it is crucial not to confuse 'wants' with 'needs,' the CRTC is asking parties to take a fact-based and objective approach to these discussions," Blais said in an opening statement to the hearings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canadian Pacific abandons bid for Virginia-based firm

Canadian Pacific Railway has given up on its attempt to merge with Norfolk Southern Corp., days after the U.S. Justice and Defense departments raised concerns about the proposed takeover of the Virginia-based company.

Calgary-based Canadian Pacific initially proposed the deal in November, which would have created the largest railroad in North America.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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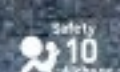
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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD ON WHY CANADA'S YOUNG LEFT EARNS FOR BERN

Canadians are primed to value not only the message of Sanders' democratic socialism, but also the vessel. Unlike the party-swapping Mulcair, Sanders is the grandpa who really DID walk to school in the snow, uphill, both ways.



It's a special insult that the U.S. is even doing socialism better than us.

Rhetorically, in any case.

We might be living in the pseudo-utopia of Bernie Sanders' acolytes' dreams, with our health care and restrictions on campaign spending, our sick leave and mat-leave culture. But they have something that we want, too: Bernie himself.

Our supposedly lefty champion, Thomas Mulcair, saw his leadership future end with a hollow thud this weekend (the NDP voted to replace him, which could take a few years). Sure, he had his "pitbull" moments in the house, but did anyone #feelthe... Nope.

Meanwhile, Sanders is more popular on Canadian millennial Facebook feeds than cats and puppies combined. Sure, he's cute in that scruffy, stray-dog kind of way. But it's not the com-bover. It's the honesty.

Still dreaming they'll never turn cynical, young



HE'S OUR MAN, TOO The cult of Bernie Sanders is a cross-border phenomenon. The likes of Thomas Mulcair can scarcely compete. STEVE JACOBS/THE POST-STAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadians are primed to value not only the message of Sanders' democratic socialism, with its focus on free universities and its rage against soulless corporate greed, but

also the vessel. Here's a man who has, for decades, been singing the same tune. Unlike the party-swapping Mulcair, Sanders is the grandpa who really DID walk to school in the snow,

uphill, both ways.

It's for others to deduce what caused the NDP's implosion. But I spoke to enough young voters during the campaign to know their idealism was ill met in the NDP's platform, and its portrayal of a stiff, somewhat shifty leader.

Of course, I could dream up a more perfect candidate than Sanders. One that shatters at least one of the gender and race biases in politics. One with a stricter stance on guns. And Sanders is controversial among black American voters.

It's also worth wondering whether Sanders would be as beloved if he weren't also a slightly cantankerous New Yorker — is our love just an extension of our enduring fascination with America itself? The political equivalent of wanting to visit Detroit? And if we lived there (in Detroit, in the U.S.) would it seem as romantic?

Still, it's laughable that we're more afraid of socialism, the word, than America is right now: the NDP voted in 2013 to scrap that term from its constitution, partly so it wouldn't become an issue in the 2015 election.

Canada needs a solid left. A socialist party that walks and talks like one. One that champions the growing poor and fights against impunity among the rich (ahem, #panamapapers). We deserve a chance to vote for a leader who meaningfully defends the socialism already at work here.

I might not always vote for him, or her, but my generation, in large part, will.

Province's film policy stuck in La-La Land

HALIFAX MATTERS

Stephen Kimber



To hear him spin it, you'd think Premier Stephen McNeil lived inside the fantasy bubble of film and television instead of outside, systematically decimating the real-world industry that creates screen magic.

In January, two of Nova Scotia's most successful production companies announced they were shuttering their businesses here. Since 2001, Special Effects Atlantic had provided "physical special effects co-ordination and supervision, as well as highly trained crews with state-of-the-art special effects equipment" to close to 60 film and TV productions. During that same period, Filmworks, a Halifax-based casting agency whose owner boasted two Gemini Award nominations, had chalked up more than 80 production credits.

Both closing. Why?

Last spring, McNeil's government killed off a 20-year-old, industry-nurturing film tax credit that had transformed \$24 million in provincial investment into \$150 million worth of production in 2014 alone. He'd replaced it with a clunky "incentive fund," whose process was so slow and whose outcome so uncertain it could barely manage to spend a third of its now-capped \$10-million annual funding.

You might think that would spark McNeil to sober second thought. You'd think wrong.

Less than a week after those businesses closed, McNeil declared, in his best my-words-make-it-so Orwellian triple-speak: "We believe there's an industry there, and there are people who continue to believe there's an industry."

Uh...

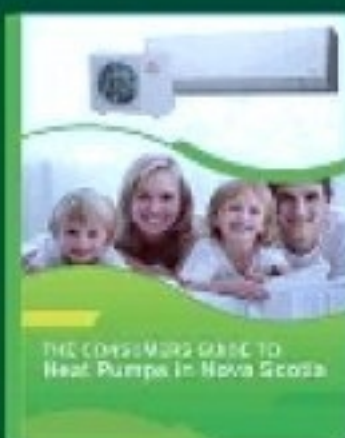
Last week, McNeil was at it again.

After a startling report from the Directors Guild of Canada showing "an almost 50 per cent drop in film and television business in just one year," and in the wake of his own business minister's "scuppered" non-press conference to not announce no changes to the not-working film incentive, McNeil doubled down.

This time he claimed the tax credit — which had spawned an industry employing 2,700 people — didn't create permanent, full-time employment.

The next day, John Wesley Chisholm called "an existential press conference" to prove his 32 full-time Arcadia Entertainment employees do indeed exist — for now. His documentary production company, which already had to lay off a quarter of its staff, is completing work on projects contracted before the elimination of the tax credit. After that ...

Not to worry. Stephen McNeil has a dream. For him. A nightmare for our used-to-be film industry.



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Fat and proud

It's an interesting time for the body-positivity movement. Amy Schumer took on Glamour magazine last week for calling her "plus size" and clothing retailer Addition Elle was criticized for firing an employee after she used the term "fat lady" in an endearing way. As the issue of labelling polarizes the plus-size community, Metro asked fashion blogger and entrepreneur Karen Ward about taking ownership of words used to hurt us.

Karen Ward
For Metro

I am adorably chubby, a freckle-faced eight-year-old waiting her turn for the monkey bars. A bully pushes me aside forcibly. I tell her I was waiting in line. She tells me to shut up and calls me a "fat tubba lard."

This is why the reclamation of the word "fat" is so contentious. But it's also why it is so important.

Twenty years later I am on the front lines of the body positivity movement in Toronto. I have been told all my life, either implicitly or explicitly, that I do not deserve the space I occupy or the beautiful clothing on my back because I am "fat."

In 2010 I started my blog Curvy Canadian, offering shopping tips, lists of stores that ship to Canada, and fashion inspiration to plus size Canadian women. Plus size clothing options are seriously lacking, and in 2012, I opened my own clothing store in Toronto, Your Big Sister's Closet.

I believe in the transformative power of dressing well. Fashion is a language, and plus size women have lacked the words so long that we barely know how to speak.

One of my customers, a petite brunette who just graduated from high school, was so shy when I first met her that she couldn't even talk to me or make eye contact.

She's been back many times since then and she's blossomed — shedding baggy sweats for my most dramatic pieces, her head held high while wearing her new electric blue pouffy skirt, and her voice audible. She is why I do what I do.

Body positivity is a social justice movement that reinforces that everyone, no matter their size, age, race, gender, disability, or appearance, is worthy of the right to be proud



From left: Sarah Taylor, reigning Miss Plus Canada; blogger Laura Caravaggio; blogger and boutique owner Karen Ward; Ophelia Alleyne, 2014 Body Confidence Canada Award Winner; Thera Warren, plus-sized stylist and blogger. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

of their body.

The body positivity community in Toronto is leading the charge to change perspectives. Reclaiming the word "fat" is an important part of the movement.

The word "fat" has always been a "bad" word — used as an insult, and a cruel one at that, which is why plus size mega retailer Addition Elle fired store associate Connie Levitsky for using it.

"Fat" is much more value-laden than any other physical descriptor: tall, short, blond, brunette. None of these hold the same ability to hurt as "fat," which is why we need to reclaim this word.

We need to strip it of its ability to hurt, shed the nega-

We need to strip it of its ability to hurt, shed the negative connotations it has accrued, and use it to label ourselves. Doing so is a highly subversive act.

Karen Ward on reclaiming the word 'fat'

tive connotations it has accrued, and use it to label ourselves. Doing so is a highly subversive act.

I applaud Levitsky both for using the term and for speaking out about her firing. It has shed much-needed light on our movement, and educated brands like Addition Elle.

This issue of labelling has been polarizing in the plus-size community.

Supermodel Ashley Graham has been criticized for participating in the #droptheplus movement, a campaign devoted to eliminating the "plus size" label altogether.

Fans are angry because

Ashley is the face of so many brands that cater to plus size women such as Lane Bryant, Addition Elle, Forever 21+, and department stores like Saks and Nordstrom, and this has helped her get to where she is, but some people feel that she is forsaking the plus size industry and community by denying the term.

It would be wonderful if we could get rid of all these labels and just BE. Unfortunately, we're just not there yet.

We're not at the point where we can throw away the labels that help us organize our advocacy. There is still so much work to do.

Just as second-wave feminists rallied as one loud, unified voice, so must we before

we can enjoy what a third-wave body positive activism will bring — a celebration of individuality without labels. We're getting there. Slowly.

When I started my blog six years ago I initially titled it "Canadian Fatshionista," but changed to "Curvy Canadian" because I worried that brands like Addition Elle wouldn't work with me and that I might alienate readers.

Now, I would choose "Canadian Fatshionista" without hesitation — not because I believe that attitudes have changed, but because I have come so far in my own body positivity.

I can now own that word. It's time to take it back.

I am fat, and I am proud.


JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

How James Corden wins over our hearts, bit by bit

THE SHOW: James Corden's *Carpool Karaoke* (YouTube)
THE MOMENT: Stevie Wonder's phone call

"This is indulgent of me," Late Late Show host James Corden, driving, says to Stevie Wonder, in the passenger seat. "My wife doesn't believe I'm in the car with you."

"What's her name?" Wonder asks.

"Julia," Corden says. "She's gonna lose her sh—."

Corden passes his phone to Wonder. Julia answers. "This is Stevie," Wonder says. He sounds a note on his harmonica and begins to croon: "I just called to say James loves you." Corden's eyes fill with tears.

Late night talk shows have become less about the shows themselves, and more about the bits that trend the next day. Interestingly, each host's best bit plays to his personality. Jimmy Fallon, who is painfully sycophantic and competitive, uses both in his wildly popular Lip Sync Battles. Jimmy Kimmel, whose very face



James Corden, right, and Stevie Wonder. CONTRIBUTED

looks like a wisecrack, excels at getting people to make fun of themselves — hence his hit, *Mean Tweets* (celebs reading mean tweets about themselves).

Corden, by contrast, is not about snark, he's about sincerity. And there's nothing more sincere than driving around in a car singing to the radio. Corden may be a successful talk show host, but he's also a bloke who understands that harmonizing

and car-seat-dancing might well be the best parts of our work days. To be able to do that with singers like Adele, Jennifer Hudson or Justin Bieber — he knows what a dream come true that is, and he conveys that.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.



Ilene Shioguchi, left, and her friend Maha Alavi met through Instagram. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

From insta-pals to real life bonds

TECHNOLOGY

How people use Instagram to meet friends, partners

Ilene Shioguchi's Instagram account is a carefully curated collection of millennial staples: selfies, brunch and coffee.

But it serves a purpose higher than ego-boosting — it's how she attracts and seeks out real-life friends.

"The great thing about meeting people through Instagram is that when I meet up with them, I feel like I already know a lot about them," said Shioguchi, a 24-year-old Torontonian studying advertising at Centennial College. "We're able to hit it off right away."

Shioguchi is one in a niche community of Instagrammers who are using the app for more

than lurking through photos of stranger's acai bowls or bikini selfies. They're building friendships, flirting and forming emotional bonds with strangers — some who they'll meet in person, others who'll remain online connections — all because of the appealing glimpse they got into the highlight reel of someone's life.

Instagram appears to be aware of its friendship-forming potential. The company encourages users to organize "InstaMeet" events, where Instagrammers meet up in person at a specific time and date, proliferating their account with photos and hashtags throughout the event.

In February, the Japanese duo behind the #2015bestnine craze, which saw Instagrammers visiting a website that created collages of their most-liked photos from the year, launched Nine, a "matching app" that compiles your top nine most-

liked Instagram photos and lets you swipe through other users' photos. It's a tool Instagrammers can use to procure friends or dates, said founder Yusuke Matsumura. But others don't need a separate app. They rely on Instagram's "explore" tab, a function that displays popular images or ones selected based on their past activity.

Torontonian Farrell Tremblay started up a year-long flirty friendship with a tattooed Californian after stumbling on her selfie via the explore tab.

"She was really cute and I commented saying such," said Tremblay, 31.

The woman responded via direct message, kicking off a friendly relationship that got so serious Tremblay considering moving to California with a friend. The plan fell through when his friend didn't get the job he wanted.

They've never met in person.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cocoa Beagle/Lab Mix

Meet cute & cuddly Cocoa! This 6-year-old lady has a gorgeous chocolate brown coat that gleams with the pride of a well-cared for pup. Due to the owner's declining health, Cocoa must find a new family to love her. This pooch enjoys sharing a game of catch with her stuffy, squeaky toys. She would prefer a new home where her human companion is home most of the time as she becomes stressed when left alone. For this reason, we believe she would be best suited to a single home dwelling. **If this sounds like you, visit Cocoa today.**



For more information on **Cocoa** and other adoptable furry friends, visit www.spcans.ca/dartmouthshelter or contact the Nova Scotia SPCA Provincial Animal Shelter at 902-468-7877 or dartmouth@spcans.ca

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Wannabes at 6 Kat counts down the HOTTEST songs of the day.

SIX@6 LAST NIGHT:

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- 5 Lukas Graham 7 Years
- 4 Hedley Lose Control
- 3 Zara Larsson I MNEK Never Forget You
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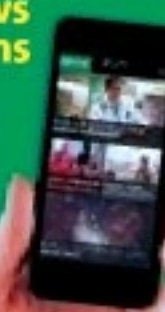
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Stephen King says new protective netting in MLB is "one more step toward taking the taste and texture out of the game I care for above all others"

metr SPORTS

NHL

180 from woes early in season has led to 2nd seed in division

Matt Cullen can't quite find the right words to describe it. Maybe because the seemingly ageless Pittsburgh Penguins centre has never experienced a season quite like this in a career that spans eight cities and nearly two decades.

Lifeless and listless in December, the Penguins enter the playoffs arguably the hottest team in the NHL, fuelled by Sidney Crosby's return to doing Sidney Crosby things. And by fresh legs from youngsters who seem to thrive off the pressure. And by a coach in Mike Sullivan whose arrival resonated in a dressing room adrift.

Maybe that's where Cullen should start, with the man who took over for Mike Johnston on Dec. 12 and put his star-laden but underachieving group on notice.

"There was a renewed sense of competition for jobs, that can take your game up to another level," Cullen said. "Guys were remotivated to re-establish themselves with the new coach."

Practices became energy-sapping endurance tests. Video work became teachable moments where mistakes were broken down and bluntly pointed out regardless of status.



Sidney Crosby, right, with teammate Bryan Rust, finished the season third in scoring with 85 points. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

"It doesn't matter who it is, he is critiquing our play and expecting us to be consistent every night," defenceman Ben Lovejoy said. "It took a while. It's not an overnight process. We had a lot of work to do."

Yet the Penguins have done it, rocketing from the fringe of the playoff race on New Year's Day to the runner-up spot in the Metropolitan Division behind a 14-2 surge to the finish. That sprint has improbably given them home-ice advantage in their first-round series against the New York Rangers

when the best-of-seven match-up starts Wednesday.

Even more remarkable than what Pittsburgh has done while averaging four goals a game over the last month is who the Penguins have done it

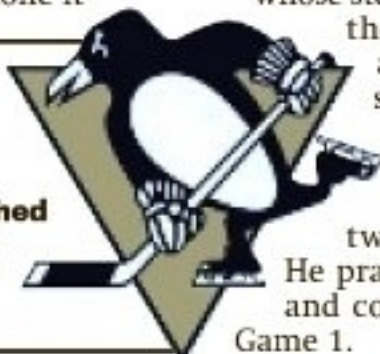
without. Evgeni Malkin skated before his teammates hit the ice Monday but remains out indefinitely with an upper-body injury suffered on March 11. Goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury, whose steady hands kept

the season from an all-out implosion last fall, is dealing with a concussion sustained two weeks ago.

He practised Monday and could return for Game 1.

14-2

The Penguins finished the regular season winning 14 of their last 16 games.



+ MATCHUPS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

- (1) Florida vs. (WC1) New York Islanders
- (2) Tampa Bay vs. (3) Detroit

Metropolitan Division

- (1) Washington vs. (WC2) Philadelphia
- (2) Pittsburgh vs. (3) New York Rangers

WESTERN CONFERENCE Central Division

- (1) Dallas vs. (WC2) Minnesota
- (2) St. Louis vs. (3) Chicago

Pacific Division

- (1) Anaheim vs. (WC1) Nashville
- (2) Los Angeles vs. (3) San Jose

OLYMPICS

Canada's chef de mission resigns

Freestyle skiing champion Jean-Luc Brassard, who earlier this year criticized the Canadian Olympic Committee's handling of alleged sexual harassment by former president Marcel Aubut, has stepped down as Canada's chef de mission for the Summer Games in Rio.

Back in February, Brassard told Radio-Canada he would consider resigning over the Aubut scandal. The COC said Monday he was leaving for "business and personal reasons."

"Since becoming chef de mission, my professional obligations and other responsibilities have

made it very challenging for me to manage time-wise," Brassard said in a statement. "After much reflection, I have come to the difficult decision, and in the best interest of Team Canada, to step down as chef de mission. I arrived at the conclusion that I could not help the athletes to the extent that I would like."

Former cyclist Curt Harnett, a three-time Olympic medallist and four-time Olympian, succeeds Brassard after holding the same position with Canada's Pan American Games team last summer. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Jean-Luc Brassard

THE CANADIAN PRESS

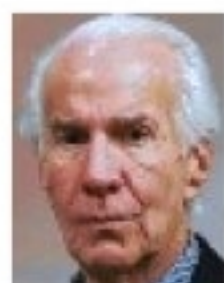
OBITUARY

Flyers founder dies of cancer at 83

Ed Snider, the Philadelphia Flyers founder whose "Broad Street Bullies" became the first expansion team to win the Stanley Cup, has died after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 83.

The Flyers said he died early Monday morning.

Snider was arguably the most influential executive in Philadelphia sports. He was chairman of the 76ers, was once a part-owner of the Eagles and had a hand in founding both Comcast's local sports channel



Ed Snider
GETTY IMAGES

and the city's largest sport-talk radio station. Upon hearing that the National Hockey League was going to expand from its original six

teams to 12, Snider petitioned the league and was awarded an expansion club in 1966. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Legendary Habs coach begins therapy after stroke

Hospital officials say Sen. Jacques Demers has begun therapy and that his health is continuing to improve after his stroke last week.

They said in a statement Monday afternoon the 71-year-old's overall medical condition is stable.

Demers, who coached the Montreal Canadiens to their 1993 Stanley Cup victory, was rushed to hospital last Wednesday night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Davis, Orioles spoil Ortiz's final Boston home opener

Chris Davis hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer off new Boston closer Craig Kimbrel in the ninth inning and drove in five runs, carrying the Baltimore Orioles over the Red Sox 9-7 Monday in David Ortiz's final home opener.

Kimbrel (0-1) walked Caleb Joseph with one out and Manny Machado with two outs, then gave up Davis' home run to centre on a 97 m.p.h. pitch. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Story's debut one for record books

Nobody in major-league history has ever had a first week like his.

Trevor Story hit a record seven home runs in his first six games, including homers in his first four starts.

"It has been fun so far," the Rockies shortstop said Sunday after hitting a solo shot in Colorado's 6-3 win over the San Diego Padres, giving him 12 RBIs and putting him on a ridiculous pace for 189 home runs and 324 RBIs this season.

OK, that won't happen. But

+ FAST START

Of the 27 players in the 500-homer club, Willie McCovey needed the fewest games — 18 — to reach seven home runs.

that's the kind of start Story has had. Even Cooperstown has taken notice, obtaining his helmet and batting gloves. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Chopped Chicken and Asparagus Salad



PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We love half-homemade dishes. Pick up a rotisserie chicken from the store, do some chopping and assemble — you'll have a great dinner salad that yields lots of leftovers.

Ready in

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients

- 1/2 whole roasted chicken, white meat sliced and cut into bite size chunks
- 1 cup shaved cheddar cheese
- 1 red pepper, sliced and chopped
- 1 bunch of asparagus, steamed and chopped
- 4 kale leaves, stemmed and chopped

Directions

1. In a tall, lidded pot, place two inches of water. Tie asparagus into a bundle with string and place in pot upright. Cook for 3 to 8 minutes depending on thickness. Remove from water and set aside.

2. Chop chicken meat and place in a large mixing bowl.

3. Shave cheese and cut asparagus into bite size pieces similar in size to chicken. Chop red pepper. Combine chicken, cheese, asparagus and red pepper into bowl and gently mix. Drizzle desired amount of dressing into salad.

4. Arrange chopped kale on plates and then spoon chicken salad over top and serve.

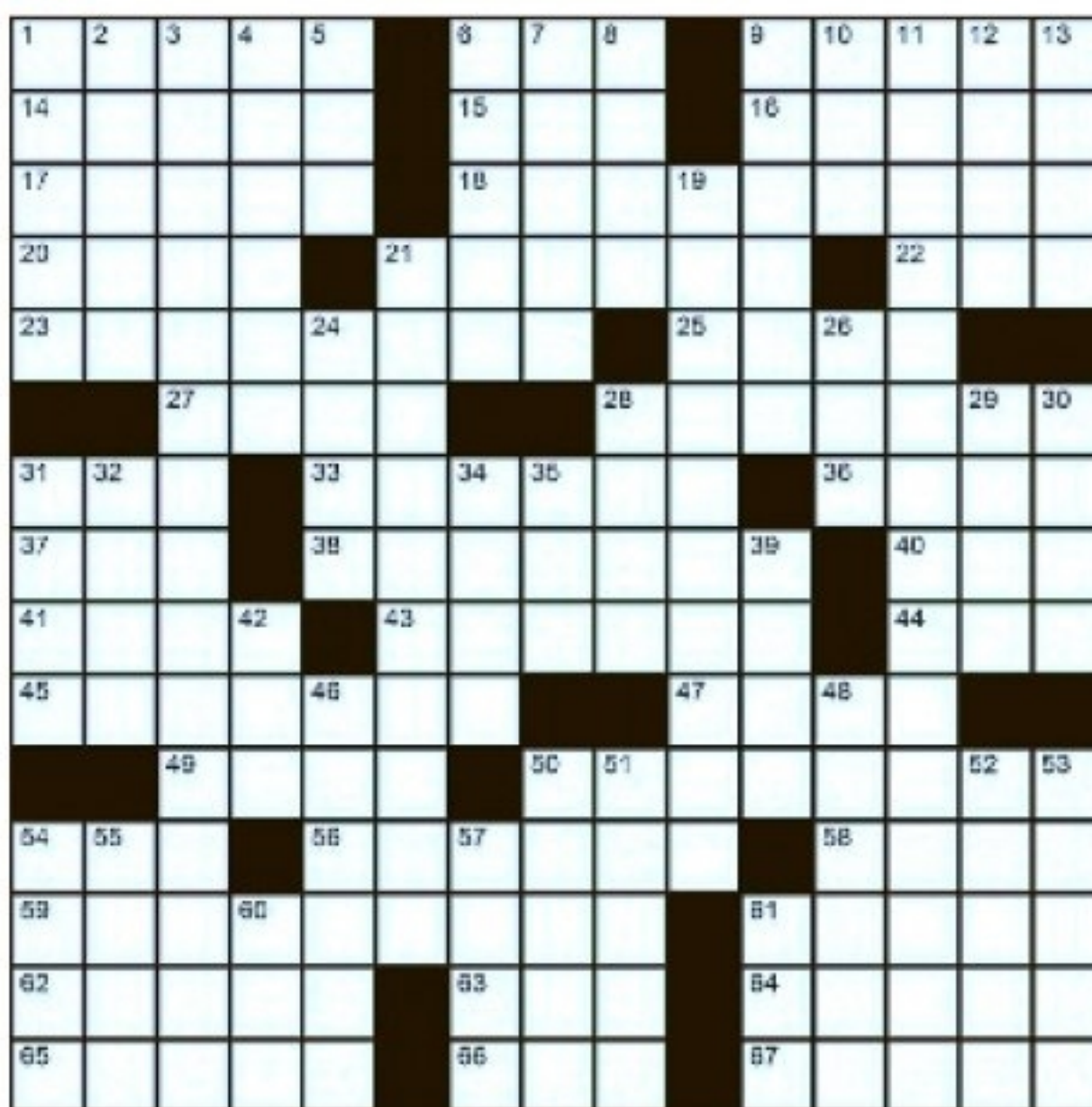
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Vancouver-born actress Ms. Smulders
6. River of Hiroshima
9. Amu __ (River in Asia)
14. Hoop-shaped
15. Fabled flapper
16. Hunter constellation
17. Singer Ms. Menzel
18. Hindrances
20. Montreal 'Miss', mini-ly
21. Hours: French
22. Laugh half
23. "Halifax" is a song on the new album 'ArrangingTime' by what American singer? 2 wds.
25. 1973 to 1974 police series
27. Superstar
28. Wine/fruit punch
31. Climber's conquest, curtly
33. Andean animals
36. Nero's 1605
37. Gang
38. Alaska's archipelago-dwelling bears
40. 'Sun' complet-er (Dessert)
41. Gator's look-alike
43. Put on that Spring jacket: 2 wds.
44. Hosp. professionals
45. 'Shrinking' flowers
47. Minimum __
49. Modelling's Miranda
50. Tires brand
54. Flight tower serv. for planes



56. Tower of London guard
58. Man __ Man-cha (Musical)
59. Novelist, William Makepeace __ (b.1811 - d.1863)
61. Madrid 'waters'
62. Motor scooter company

63. Soul, in Paris
64. Mail: French
65. "For he that __ through Morgoth's eyes..." - J.R.R. Tolkien, The Silmarillion
66. Pot's cover
67. "The Biggest __" (NBC show)

DOWN

1. Style with a 1980s hair iron
2. "Tee __ Un-Bum-Bo"
3. Living room feature: 2 wds.
4. Requiring resources: 2 wds.
5. Q. "Is Phys. __ class

- we have to take?" A. "Unfortunately."
6. Dictate
7. Bruce Springsteen's "Born __"
8. Buying __ (Dealer-ship transaction)
9. Canadian singer Fefe
10. 'Masc' ender

- (Eye makeup)
11. Actor who brought Duddy Kravitz to life on the silver screen: 2 wds.
12. Aviator's steering wheel
13. Grande __ (New Brunswick village)
19. Alberta city south of Edmonton
21. Vancouver... Landmark in Stanley Park that's over 700 years old: 2 wds.
24. Egg part
26. Movie studio
28. France/Germany river
29. The Who's " __ See for Miles"
30. Holy hails
31. Gladiator's 2105
32. Ms. Spelling
34. Tangy drinks
35. "Mamma __" (2008)
39. Headliner
42. Key: French
46. Singer/actress, __ Badu
48. "Slide" by The __ Dolls
50. Savoury fifth taste
51. Gave a 'Yea'-opposing vote
52. Winged
53. Dermatologist's tool
54. Off-road rides, commonly
55. 'You' of yore
57. __B (Tooth-brush brand)
60. Ship's leader [abbr.]
61. will.i.am's band-mate, __deap

*IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Give yourself extra time this morning so you have wiggle room to deal with surprises, because something unexpected will occur. Forgotten appointments or sudden changes are likely.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Disputes about inheritances and shared property are likely now. This morning, unexpected news could affect these arrangements. Stay on top of things!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Today the Moon is in your sign, which makes you more emotional than usual; however, it also favours you with good luck. Unexpected news might catch you off guard.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Something might make you feel unsettled or uncertain about things today. If this is the case, reserve important decisions for the morning, and do nothing in the afternoon. Just coast.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a fun day! Enjoy the company of others; however, don't commit to anything this afternoon. (You might meet a real character this morning or someone you know might do something that amazes you.)

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Bosses, parents and VIPs might throw you a curveball this morning. Wait until tomorrow to respond. You'll be glad you did.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Travel plans will be interrupted this morning. However, by contrast, you suddenly might have to travel somewhere even though you didn't expect to do so. "Whaaaat?"

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
When dealing with shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances, restrict your decisions to this morning. Furthermore, expect a few surprises! (Know your stuff.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A partner or a close friend might say or do something you least expect this morning. However, you might like it. Whatever happens might give you more freedom in some way.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your work routine will be interrupted this morning because of power outages, computer crashes, staff shortages or something unexpected.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a mildly accident-prone day for your kids, especially this morning. Therefore, be vigilant and know what's going on.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Small appliances might break down this morning or minor breakages could occur because your home routine will have some speed bumps. Definitely. Perhaps surprise company will knock on your door.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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